UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social Council

PROVISIONAL

For participants only

E/1991/SR.3
12 April 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Resumed organizational session for 1991

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 3rd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 25 March 1991, at 11 a.m.

President: Mr. SILOVIC (Yugoslavia)
(Vice-President)

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The meeting was called to order at 11.35 a.m.

BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COUNCIL (continued) (E/1991/1/Add.1 and Corr.1 and E/1991/L.16)

1. The PRESIDENT declared the Council's resumed organizational session for 1991 open and said that the Council had before it a draft decision entitled "The economic, social and environmental consequences of the situation between Iraq and Kuwait and its short-, medium- and long-term implications" (E/1991/L.16). The draft decision was the product of lengthy and broad informal consultations and reflected the Council's determination to deal with a major question.

2. After congratulating all the members of the Council on the spirit of conciliation and cooperation which had made such an achievement possible, he said that there had been general agreement that the informal debate should be held at the Council's second regular session in Geneva, and it had been decided that the Secretary-General should be requested to provide appropriate documentation and invite the Executive Heads of the agencies and organizations concerned to participate in the discussion. He therefore requested the Council to take action in that connection. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt draft decision E/1991/L.16.

3. It was so decided.

4. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had just adopted a formal decision in which it had decided to hold an informal exchange of views on an important subject.

5. In the debates which had led to the formulation of the decision, attention had been devoted to the role and competence of the Council, and the scope and content of the exchange of views within the framework of the Council's responsibilities under the Charter. The question of the relationship between such an exchange of views and the Security Council resolutions on the situation between Iraq and Kuwait had been addressed. Consideration had also been given to the need to devòte the proper attention to the implications of the situation for the world economy, particularly in the developing countries, and to the need to focus the discussion on strengthening the Council's coordinating role in respect of the specialized agencies of the United Nations, with a view to enhancing its assistance to developing countries so that they could cope with the implications of the situation between Iraq and Kuwait.

6. Mr. OSMAN (Somalia) said that the situation in Somalia had grown worse since early January as a result of the intensification of the armed struggle. The conflict had led to the loss of thousands of lives, the displacement of more than 1 million people, destruction of property, and the collapse of essential services and infrastructure, resulting in the disruption of social and economic activities in Somalia. In view of that disastrous situation, Somalia renewed its appeal to the international community for assistance so that its immediate needs could be met and proposed the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda for the Council's first regular session on humanitarian assistance or relief to Somalia.

7. The PRESIDENT said that the proposal by the Somalian representative complied with the provisions of rule 12 of the Council's rules of procedure. He suggested that the Council should approve the inclusion of a supplementary item entitled "Emergency assistance to Somalia" for consideration in May at its first regular session.

8. It was so decided.

CLOSURE OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1991

9. The PRESIDENT said that the Council had thus concluded consideration of agenda item 3 and the work of its resumed organizational session for 1991, and declared the organizational session for 1991 closed.

The meeting rose at 11.50 a.m.